

THE OUTLAW POST

Elder Grove Newsletter

October 2018

Setting A High Standard

By Superintendent Schmitz

I've been asked by many what they can do to help keep our children safe in schools. I appreciate this outreach. Here are some suggestions:

1. Stay closely connected to your children and their friends. If ever you feel uneasy about what could be a threat to our students and schools, report it to your principal, to me, or to the police. Be vigilant! Tell your children to do the same; if they hear or see something that worries them, make sure they know that they should tell a trusted adult as soon as possible.
2. Discuss with your children, as appropriate, what basic actions can be taken in emergency situations. There are common sense best practices that children of all ages should know, including listening to adults for instructions, following those instructions, and staying calm and quiet.
3. Communicate with elected officials and leaders that these issues get addressed through sensible legislation, policies, and procedures. Hold those in authority accountable for the safety of our children.

The safety and well-being of our students, community, and nation deserve our best efforts always, and now is the time for us to stand together to make necessary changes.

With that being said, I want to take a this opportunity to update you with some decisions that have been made and the actions that have followed these decisions. We started the school year with an all staff active shooter training that was led by the Yellowstone County Sheriff's Department. It was an incredibly informative day that provided great insight and tools for our staff to deal with what is a very difficult topic. We have ordered radios that are being used daily on our campus. Through these radios we have direct contact with our bus service, law enforcement, local emergency dispatch, school district #2, as well as local channels to communicate here on campus. We have ordered and received new door barricade systems for all doors that will be installed immediately. School safety is one of my top priorities and I am grateful to say we have made several moves to further secure our campus.

Nathan Schmitz
Superintendent
Elder Grove Schools



Calendar of Events

October 1st

6th Girls BB @ BCS - 4:15 PM
7th/8th Red Girls BB @ BCS - 5:15 PM

October 2nd

5th Girls BB vs. Home School - 4 PM
XC Meet @ Pioneer Park - 4:45 PM

October 3rd

EARLY OUT

October 4th

5th Girls BB vs. St. Francis - 4 PM
6th Girls BB vs. St. Francis—5 PM

October 5th

Morning Muffins—7:30 AM

October 6th

FB vs. YFF Broncos @ West High—10 AM

October 9th

6th Girls BB @ Home School - 4 PM

October 11th

5th Girls BB vs. Canyon Creek - 4 PM
7th/8th Red Girls BB vs. Canyon Creek - 5 PM
(Pack the Place in Pink Event)

October 13th

FB vs. YFF Raiders @ West High - 10 AM
(Pack the Place in Pink Event)

October 15th

7th/8th Black Girls BB @ Trinity - 4 PM

October 16th

5th Girls BB @ Blue Creek - 4 :15 PM
6th Girls BB @ Blue Creek - 5:15 PM

October 17th

Elder Grove Day at the Zoo

EARLY OUT

October 18th & 19th

NO SCHOOL

October 22

5th Girls BB vs. Independent - 4 :15 PM
6th Girls BB vs. Independent - 5:15 PM

October 23

School Board Meeting—5:30 PM

October 25th - 27th

7th/8th Girls BB Tournament
Tournament @ BCS

THE RICE REPORT

With all of the changes here at Elder Grove, we thought it would be a great time to shift our behavioral reward system. In the past, we rewarded students who were “Caught Being Good.” This year, we have decided to reward students for “Going Above and Beyond.” We want to reward the students who are doing more than what is expected of them. When a student goes above and beyond, they are given a “Going Above and Beyond” ticket that is turned in to the office. We will collect these tickets throughout each quarter. At the end of each quarter, we will have our “Going Above and Beyond” assembly. At this assembly, we will draw from the tickets and the winning students will have the opportunity to participate in Minute To Win It games, competitions, and other various fun activities. In addition, at these assemblies, we will be announcing the quarterly recipients of our new Principal’s Award. Each quarter, Mr. Moore and myself will give one student per school (K-5 and 6-8) a Principal Award. These students will display the exemplary attributes that make up the model Outlaw Nation citizen. These students will receive a certificate, t-shirt, a prize, and additional recognition via various outlets. At the end of the school year, we will have a drawing from the 8 recipients of the Principal’s Award. This lucky winner will receive an additional grand prize as “Elder Grove Student of the Year.”

We have had a wonderful start to our school year and we want to thank you for all of your support. Go Outlaws!

Mike Rice
Middle School Principal/Activities Director

Staff Spotlight

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome all of our amazing new staff. Welcome to Elder Grove!

- Jesse Moore
- Emily Suydam
- Jodi Rookhuizen
- Christopher Patton
- Sam Paterson
- Theresa Kolar
- Joey Starr
- Tracy Lawson
- Mason Reeves
- Melody McCamey-Kramlich
- Jacob Marshall



Pack the Place in Pink shirts are available for purchase for \$10 in the Middle School Office.

Stop by between 8 am and 3:30 pm to pick up your shirts. Every single dollar goes directly to local breast cancer patients.

Pack the Place in Pink Events

October 11 - Girls Basketball at Elder Grove - 4 and 5 pm

October 13 - FB at West High - 10 am



Moore's Corner

It has been a terrific start to the school year here at Elder Grove! The reception from the Elder Grove community when I accepted the job as the new elementary principal has been amazing! Getting to see our students actively learning in the classroom has shown me how invested our teachers are in the success of our students. We take pride in the work our teachers do, and have been going above and beyond to make sure our students are learning at a high level. One piece that has been instrumental in this success is the use of vision teams. These teams help guide the school in the areas of school wide management, instruction, assessment, technology, behavior, special education, and relations. Teachers meet regularly in these areas to address our school's needs and create an action plan to solve those needs. Our staff recently attended a PIR day that addressed proficiency scales (where students are assessed on standards) and provided resources that help teachers to meet those standards. It was an informative day for staff and allowed us all to reflect on our own teaching practices. Elder Grove is a great community and I am overjoyed to be a part of it!

Jesse Moore
Elementary Principal